

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. – 7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 7, comprising for controlling echo canceling in a telecommunications network comprising a first switching center having no echo canceling equipment and at least one second switching center having echo canceling equipment, said method comprising  
establishing a call connection in a speech mode via said first switching center and said at least one second switching center so that the echo canceling equipment is connected to the connection,  
changing, under control of said first switching center, the type of call connection from the speech mode to another transmission mode in which echo canceling is not allowed,  
sending to said at least one second switching center from said first switching center a signaling message commanding said second switching center to disconnect the echo canceling equipment from the connection,  
changing, under control of said first switching center, the type of the call connection from said other transmission mode back to the speech mode, and  
sending to said at least one second switching center from said first switching center a signaling message commanding said second switching center to connect the echo canceling equipment to the connection.

9. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 7 or 8, for controlling echo canceling in a telecommunications network comprising a first switching center having no echo canceling equipment and at least one second switching center having echo canceling equipment, said method comprising  
establishing a call connection in a speech mode via said first switching center and said at least one second switching center so that the echo canceling equipment is connected to the connection,

changing, under control of said first switching center, the type of call connection from the speech mode to another transmission mode in which echo canceling is not allowed, and sending to said at least one second switching center from said first switching center a signaling message commanding said second switching center to disconnect the echo canceling equipment from the connection,

wherein said telecommunications network is a mobile communications network, said first switching center is a mobile switching center, and said at least one second switching center is a gateway mobile switching center connecting said mobile communications network to a fixed telephone network.

10. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 9, comprising establishing said call connection between a mobile station and a second fixed network subscriber through said first mobile switching center and said gateway mobile switching center with echo canceling equipment being connected to the call connection in said gateway mobile switching center,

changing, under control of said mobile switching center, the type of call connection from the speech mode to said other transmission mode in which echo canceling is not allowed,

sending to said gateway mobile switching center from said first mobile switching center said signaling message commanding said gateway mobile switching center to disconnect the echo canceling equipment from the connection.

11. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 9, comprising changing, under control of said mobile switching center, the type of the connection from said other transmission mode back to the speech mode,

sending to said gateway mobile switching center from said first mobile switching center said signaling message commanding said gateway mobile switching center to connect the echo canceling equipment to the connection.

12. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim [[7 or]] 8 wherein said other transmission mode is a facsimile mode or a data transmission mode.

13. (Previously Presented) A communications network, comprising a first switching center having no echo canceling equipment and at least one second switching center having echo canceling equipment, said first switching center being configured to be capable of changing the call party during the call by releasing a connection leg to an old party and establishing a new connection leg to a new party, and wherein

the first switching center is configured to send, in response to the change of call party, to said at least one second switching center a signaling message commanding said second switching center to connect the echo canceling equipment to a call connection, when there is no echo canceling equipment already connected to the call connection and echo canceling is required due to the new party.

14. (Previously Presented) A network according to claim 13, wherein said communications network is a mobile communications network, said first switching center is a mobile switching center, and said at least one second switching center is a gateway mobile switching center connecting said mobile communications network to a fixed telephone network.

15. (Previously Presented) A network according to claim 14, wherein said call connection initially comprises a first connection leg from the first mobile switching center via said gateway mobile switching center to a first fixed telephone network party, and a second connection leg from the first mobile switching center to a second fixed telephone network party, and wherein the first mobile switching center is configured to release the second connection leg in response to a release message sent by the second fixed telephone network party, and to establish a new connection leg from the first mobile switching center to a mobile subscriber, said new connection requiring echo canceling.

16. (Previously Presented) A network according to claim 14, wherein said call connection initially comprises a first connection leg from the first mobile switching center via said gateway mobile switching center to a first fixed telephone network party, and a second call connection leg from the first mobile switching center via said gateway mobile switching center to a service node, preferably a voice mail service, and that the first mobile switching center is configured to release the second connection leg in response to a release

message sent by the service node, and to establish a new connection leg from the first mobile switching center to a mobile subscriber, said new connection requiring echo canceling.

17. (Previously Presented) A network according to claim 13 wherein said message is an ISUP Facility message provided with control information for controlling the connecting of the echo canceling equipment.

18. (Previously Presented) A network according to claim 13, wherein said first switching center is connected to a service control point in an intelligent network.

19. (Previously Presented) A network according to claim 18, wherein said first switching center is configured to perform the change of a call party by a call party handling procedure of the intelligent network.

20. (Previously Presented) A communications network comprising a first switching center having no echo canceling equipment and at least one second switching center having echo canceling equipment, said first switching center being configured to be capable of changing the call type from a speech mode to another transmission mode during the call, and wherein

the first switching center is configured to send, in response to said change of call type from said speech mode to said other transmission mode, to said at least one second switching center a signaling message commanding said second switching center to disconnect the echo canceling equipment from a call connection, when said call connection is routed via said second switching center.

21. (Previously Presented) A network according to claim 20, wherein said telecommunications network is a mobile communications network, said first switching center is a mobile switching center and said at least one second switching center is a gateway mobile switching center connecting said mobile communications network to a fixed telephone network.

22. (Previously Presented) A network according to claim 20 or 21, wherein said other transmission mode is a facsimile mode or a data transmission mode.

23. (New) A switching center for a communications network, wherein the switching center echo canceling equipment is capable of changing the call party during the call by releasing a connection leg to an old party and establishing a new connection leg to a new party, and

the first switching center is configured to send, in response to the change of call party, to a second switching center having echo canceling equipment a signaling message commanding said second switching center to connect the echo canceling equipment to a call connection, when there is no echo canceling equipment already connected to the call connection and echo canceling is required due to the new party.

24. (New) A switching center for a communications network, wherein the switching center without echo canceling equipment is capable of changing the call type from a speech mode to another transmission mode during the call, and

the switching center is configured to send, in response to said change of call type from said speech mode to said other transmission mode, to a second switching center having echo canceling equipment, a signaling message commanding said second switching center to disconnect the echo canceling equipment from a call connection, when said call connection is routed via said second switching center.